

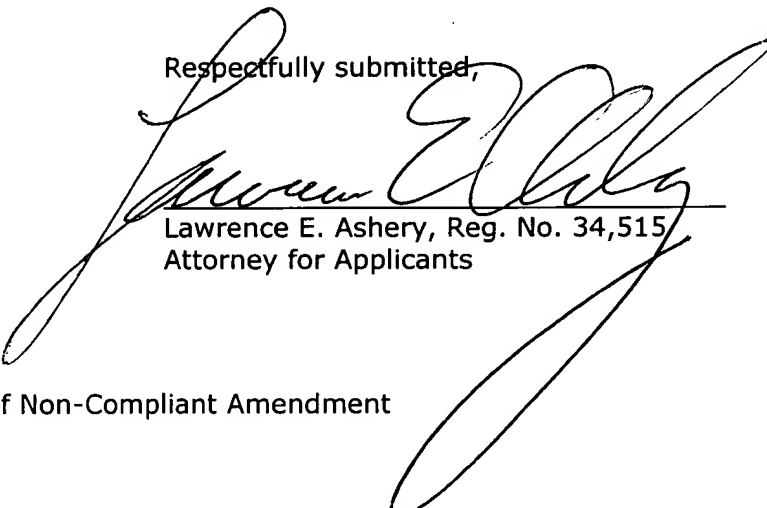
Appln. No.: 09/601,234
Response Dated: April 5, 2004
Reply to Notice of: March 23, 2004

MAT-7999US

Remarks/Arguments:

Responsive to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated March 23, 2004, claim 14's status identifier has been changed to "Currently Amended". A copy of the Notice is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515
Attorney for Applicants

LEA/fp

Attachment: Copy of Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment

Dated: April 5, 2004

P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980
(610) 407-0700

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

April 5, 2004

